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OFFICE OF PETITIONS

In re Application of :
Richard MERRILL :
Application No. 09/884,863 : DECISION GRANTING PETITION
Filed: June 18, 2001 : UNDER 37 CFR 1.137(f)
Attorney Docket No. FOV-053 :

This is a decision on the petition, filed May 12, 2003, to revive the instant nonprovisional application under the unintentional provisions of 37 CFR 1.137(f).

The petition is GRANTED.

Petitioner states that the instant nonprovisional application is the subject of an application filed in a foreign country on September 20, 2001. However, the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office was unintentionally not notified of this filing within 45 days subsequent to the filing of the subject application in a foreign country.

In view of the above, this application became abandoned pursuant to 35 U.S.C. § 122(b)(2)(B)(iii) and 37 CFR 1.213(c) for failure to timely notify the Office of the filing of an application in a foreign country, or under a multilateral international agreement, that requires publication of applications 18 months after filing.

A petition under 37 CFR 1.137(f) must be accompanied by:

- (1) the reply which is met by the notification of such filing in a foreign country or under a multinational treaty;
- (2) the petition fee as set forth in 37 CFR 1.17(m); and
- (3) a statement that the entire delay in filing the required reply from the due date of the reply until

the filing of a grantable petition was unintentional.

The instant petition has been found to be in compliance with 37 CFR 1.137(f). Accordingly, the failure to timely notify the Office of a foreign or international filing within 45 days after the date of filing of such foreign or international application as provided by 35 U.S.C. § 122(b)(2)(B)(iii) and 37 CFR 1.213(c) is accepted as having been unintentionally delayed.

The previous Request and Certification under 35 U.S.C. § 122(b)(2)(B)(I) has been rescinded.

Any inquiries concerning this decision may be directed to B. Dayoan at (703) 308-3865 or, in her absence, to the undersigned at (703) 305-8680.

This application is being forwarded to Technology Center Art Unit 2823 for further examination in view of the response filed February 20, 2003.

Frances Hicks
Frances Hicks
Petitions Examiner
Office of Petitions
Office of the Deputy Commissioner
for Patent Examination Policy